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the Colinian

Copiah-Lincoln Community College
ALUMNI MAGAZINE

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The Colinian

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From the President

By Dr. Howell C. Garner

Another Homecoming has come and gone! And what a great homecoming weekend it was! We couldn't have asked for better weather – just a beautiful day on Saturday! Our attendance was one of the best ever, and the various meetings and events were carried out in grand style, "without a hitch" as the old saying goes!

Congratulations to the 2007 inductees into the Co-Lin Sports Hall of Fame: Chris Calcote, Tara Curtis, Troy C. Greer, the late Grady Jones, Jr., and Curtis McMillan. This was a great group, and the ceremony on Saturday was a class act!

I'd be remiss if I didn't say a word about the brand new Band and Colette Alumni group. The group was organized at last year's Homecoming and had its first official reunion as a newly chartered organization this year. The group honored Dot Franklin and the late Ralph Franklin as the first inductees into the Band and Colette Hall of Fame! The group also honored Boone Daughdrill as the Alumnus of the Year! I was very pleased to be able to speak to this group at its meeting on Saturday morning. in Taylor Chapel. What a great start for this organization! Special thanks to Charlie McCall for his help in organizing the group!

Well, it just kept on getting better as the day went on! The Tailgate Party, which has become a great way for alumni and friends to visit and enjoy lunch together, was a smashing success this year! The menu featured a catfish plate with all the trimmings, provided, once again, by Georgia Pacific Catfish Cooking Team; grilled chicken; and burgers and dogs were also featured – thanks to all of our Co-Lin family "cooks"! Games and other activities were a hit for the children, and the entertainment provided by Lisa and Allen Purdy and by the Delta State University Ol Skool Band was enjoyed by all!

Congratulations to Meleah Brown who was crowned Homecoming Queen during pre-game ceremonies! Lots of pretty maids that day as well!

THANKS to all of our Co-Lin family who worked on Friday and Saturday to make it a special time for our alumni! And to top off the day, the Co-Lin Wolf Pack posted a 27-17 win over the East Mississippi Lions!

Now, if you think I over used the exclamation point in this article, you're probably right! But, after all, it was an exciting Homecoming!

Alumni President's Message

By Lisa Ward Purdie ('84)

Happy New Year! I hope you all survived the holiday chaos and were able to find the true spirit of the season, despite too much leftover fruitcake and not enough leftover money! But even with a few negatives, I love the holidays, as they remind me of the blessings of family and friends and traditions that have been passed down from year to year.

That feeling of tradition is one I had while visiting Co-Lin during Homecoming 2007. Year after year, young men and women arrive on campus filled with enthusiasm and dreams, hopes and fears. The energy and possibilities that arrive with each student follow a tradition that existed when I attended Co-Lin, and was there when you were a student as well. Although much has changed on campus, and the names and faces are different, the promise for the future they carry has not. I am delighted to return to homecoming each year to see old acquaintances, teachers, coaches and administrators who played such an important role in my own future. This year was no exception.

With all the upgraded facilities and revamped buildings, additional scholarships, and new alumni groups, Co-Lin is reaping the benefits of the many seeds that have been planted over the past few seasons. This cultivation is ongoing and exciting, and I am proud to be involved this year as president of the Alumni Association. While much work has been done, plenty of opportunities still exist for involvement. I hope you will make it a priority this year to take part and plant a few seeds of your own.

Have a wonderful 2008!

Alumni Association

| Officers elected for 2007-2008 |

Newly elected officers are from left, Celeste Jones Williamson of Brookhaven, secretary; Steve Moreman of Monticello, vice president; and Lisa Ward Purdie of Ridgeland, president.

Lisa Ward Purdie of Ridgeland and a 1984 Co-Lin graduate was named president of the Co-Lin Alumni Association during the business meeting of the Association at Homecoming. She follows Rachel Thames Peeples.

Purdie received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Southern Mississippi. She works in the communications department at Millsaps College. Purdie and her husband, Alan, have one child, Annalee.

Steve Moreman of Monticello and a 1984 graduate was elected vice president of the Alumni Association. Moreman is a funeral director and serves on the Board of Aldermen for Monticello. He and his wife, Gayden, have three sons, Alton, Elliott, and Oliver.

Celeste Jones Williamson of Brookhaven was elected secretary. She is a 1997 Co-Lin graduate and received an undergraduate degree from Delta State University. Williamson is workforce education training specialist for Co-Lin. She and her husband, Carey, have three children.

| Band & Colette Hall of Fame & Outstanding Young Alumni |

The Copiah-Lincoln Community College Band and Colette Alumni Chapter inducted the late Ralph Franklin and his wife Dot as the first members of the Co-Lin Band and Colette Hall of Fame. The group also honored Lawrence County native, Boone Daughdrill, as the Band and Colette Outstanding Young Alumni. Ceremonies were held during the college's homecoming activities.

The late Ralph Franklin led the Co-Lin band program in 1938-41 and 1946-57, and his wife, Dot Franklin, created the Colettes. Under the Franklins' leadership, state newspapers dubbed the band in 1940 as "the state's number one jitterbug band," according to a quote from Franklin. They were pioneers in uniforms and props for a dance group and band and led Co-Lin's band to national prominence. The Colettes were the first such group in Mississippi and the third in the nation.

Along with fellow Co-Lin instructor Kenneth Carruth, Ralph Franklin wrote a book, "Props Make the Band Show," in 1957 that became a manual for building and using props to enhance band performances.

After leaving Co-Lin, the Franklins went to Delta State where Dot Franklin created the Delta Bells, a precision dance team like the Colettes. They remained at Delta State 20 years. Dot currently resides in Cleveland.

Boone Daughdrill is a drummer for the Christian rock band, DecembeRadio. He attended Co-Lin in 1998-00 and was a drummer for the Blue Wave Band.

He has played for Christian artists including Zoe Girl, Jump 5, Jill Paquette, Kimberly Perry, and Casting Crowns. His drumming opportunities blossomed during his Co-Lin experience by playing with Top-40 cover band, Big Daddy Rabbit and the CaneCutters.

He currently resides in Nashville, Tenn., but grew up in New Hebron. He began playing the drums in the fifth grade at New Hebron and later played for the Lawrence County High School Band. While at Co-Lin, he was a music education major. DecemberRadio was recently nominated for a 2007 Grammy award and earned recognition by winning a GMA Dove Award for rock album of the year.

Alumni of the Year

Tricia Walker and Bill Salters were honored at homecoming as outstanding alumni of the College. The selection is made by a committee of alumni from throughout Co-Lin's district.

Walker is a 1972 graduate of Co-Lin and a member of the Co-Lin Hall of Fame. She is currently director of the Delta Music Institute at Delta State University and has had a distinguished career as a songwriter and singer. Walker has been the headliner at Co-Lin's homecoming for several years.

She earned a bachelor's degree from Delta State and a master's degree in music theory and composition from Mississippi College. While in Nashville she played at the Grand Ole Opry with Connie Smith and Roy Acuff. Her songs have been recorded by such artists as Faith Hill and Pattie Loveless, and Alison Kraus won a Grammy award with her recording of Walker's song "Looking Through the Eyes of Love."

A native of Fayette, Walker now lives in Cleveland and is a frequent performer.

Salters is president of the board of directors of the Co-Lin Foundation. He is chief financial officer and executive vice president of Britton and Koontz Bank in Natchez.

Salters is a native of Mendenhall and a 1975 graduate of Co-Lin. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Southern Mississippi and has since earned a master's degree in business administration from Alcorn State University.

He was instrumental in the development of the Natchez Golf Tournament as a fundraiser for the Foundation and Co-Lin Natchez campus. He is active in the community including the chamber of commerce, Kiwanis Club and Leadership Natchez.

Salters and his wife, Martha Carlisle Salters ('74), have three daughters, Sydney, Sarah, and Sunny, and four grandchildren.

Just "Dues" It!

If you haven't paid your Co-Lin Alumni Association dues, please "dues" it to become an active member of the Association. Please consider investing $25 for an individual, $40 for a couple or $250 for a life-time membership.

Make your check payable to Co-Lin Alumni Association and mail to P. O. Box 649, Wesson, MS 39191.

Alumni dues help publish *im*PACK and *The Colinian* and fund homecoming and other events.

Nominations sought for 2008 Alumni Honors

The Copiah-Lincoln Community College Alumni Association is accepting nominations for Outstanding Alumna and Alumnus of the Year and Outstanding Academic Instructor of the Year, Outstanding Career-Tech Instructor of the Year and Outstanding Staff Member of the Year for 2008.

These individuals will be honored during the 2008 Co-Lin Homecoming festivities. A deadline for receiving nominations will be set later. Alumni and friends are urged to get nominations in as early as possible.

Nomination forms are available on the Co-Lin web site, www.colin.edu, under "Alumni and Friends" or from the Alumni office at P. O. Box 649, Wesson, MS 39191. Nominations should be returned to the Alumni office.

The Outstanding Alumna/Alumnus of the Year is selected based on their work for the betterment of Co-Lin, accomplishments as leaders in the business and professional world and outstanding service to their community.

| Outstanding Staff & Instructors Honored |

The Co-Lin Alumni Association honored two instructors and one staff member at homecoming 2007 for their outstanding service to the college. Brad Johnson, an instructor, choral director, and chairman of the Fine Arts Division was named Outstanding Academic Instructor of the Year. Lisa Bodin, applied studies instructor, was named Outstanding Career-Tech Instructor of the Year. Jeff Posey, director of adult education, was honored as the Outstanding Staff Member of the Year.

Johnson joined Co-Lin's staff in 1992 as choral director. He also serves as minister of music for Brookhaven First United Methodist Church.

Johnson is a 1981 graduate of Co-Lin and received his undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Southern Mississippi. He emphasized piano in undergraduate school and voice and choral in graduate school.

He is vice president of the Mississippi Chapter of the American Choral Director's Association. In 2004 he was named Outstanding Educator of the Year by the Wesson Chamber of Commerce.

He and his wife, Joy Ezell Haygood Johnson, have three daughters. The family lives in Wesson.

Bodin has worked as an applied studies instructor for Copiah-Lincoln Community College since 1992. She taught in the humanities department in 1991-92. Prior to that, she was a K-6 teacher at St. Alphonsus Catholic School.

She is a 1978 graduate of Copiah-Lincoln Community College where she was a Phi Theta Kappa member and officer. Bodin is also a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi.

In addition to being a Delta Kappa Gamma member, she is part of the Lloyd Star Foundation and serves as secretary of the Lloyd Star Booster Club. She is also active in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints where she serves as a teacher.

Bodin and her husband, Van, have two daughters, a son, and two grandchildren. The Bodins live in Wesson.

Posey is a 1990 Co-Lin graduate and received his undergraduate degree from Delta State University. He earned his master's degree from Southern Miss and has done additional work at Southern Miss and Mississippi State.

He was named the 2007 Adult Education Supervisor of the Year by the Mississippi Association of Adult and Community Education. He joined the Co-Lin staff in 1994.

Posey is chairman of the board of Copiah-Lincoln Educator's Federal Credit Union and a member of the Co-Lin Foundation board. He is also past president of the Mississippi Association of Adult and Community Education. He is a member of Brookway Church of Christ.

Posey and his wife, Joanna Joyce Posey, have two children. They live in Brookhaven.

Sports Hall of Fame

Has Five New Members

By David Campbell

Five new members were inducted into the college's Sports Hall of Fame. Members of the class of 2007 are from left, Curtis McMillian (football), Chris Calcote (baseball), Tara Curtis (basketball), Troy Greer (football), and Bobby Jones, wife of the late Grady Jones, Jr. (football).

The Co-Lin Athletic Alumni Association inducted five former athletes into the college's Sports Hall of Fame during ceremonies at Homecoming. Those inducted were Chris Calcote, Tara Curtis, Troy Greer, the late Grady Jones, and Curtis McMillan.

Calcote, a 1971 Co-Lin graduate, is currently athletic director for Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. He is being inducted into the Hall of Fame for baseball, but he also was an outstanding Wolves football player.

Curtis, a 1990 Co-Lin graduate, was an outstanding Co-Lin basketball player earning First Team All-State, All-Region, and All-Region All Tournament Team both years at Co-Lin. She is now athletic director for Dixon Correctional Institute in Jackson, La.

Greer of Mendenhall is a retired educator and former high school football coach and athletic director. He came to Co-Lin after serving in the U. S. Marine Corp in 1954-56 and was captain of the Wolves football team and was named Second Team All-State in 1958.

Jones is being honored posthumously for accomplishments in football. The Hazlehurst native played football at Co-Lin in 1950 then served in the military during the Korean War. He returned to the Co-Lin Wolves and played guard in 1953-54 and tackle in 1954-55.

McMillan, a member of the class of 1960, was selected First Team All-State while a member of the Co-Lin football team. He is a former educator and coach and currently is the owner of a real estate and appraisal service in Mendenhall.

Also at the Athletic Alumni meeting, Jim Robbins of Columbia ('65) was named president. Ronnie J. Smith ('66) will serve as vice president and Pat Hennington ('60) as secretary.

Nominations for 2008 Sports Hall of Fame

Nominations for the Sports Hall of Fame can be made through the Alumni office. Nominations must be made by members of the Athletic Alumni Association and must be received by July 1, 2008. Forms to nominate are available on the college's web site and at the Alumni office. All former Co-Lin athletes are considered members of the Athletic Alumni Association.

Lists of recipients of all the awards are available on the web site under "Alumni and Friends."

Dr. Garner Announces Retirement

By Natalie Davis

After 40 years in education, Copiah-Lincoln Community College President Dr. Howell Garner announced his retirement effective June 30, 2008. The announcement came at the December Board of Trustees meeting.

"I have had the pleasure and good fortune to serve with may truly outstanding faculty members, some of whom have been affectionately titled "icons" in the history and tradition of this college," said Garner. "In addition, I have had the distinct pleasure of working with many outstanding professional support staff members throughout my 34 years at Co-Lin. It has been a great experience for me and for my family to part a part of the Co-Lin family."

Garner, who has spent the last 11 years as president of the college, served as the Dean of the College from 1985-1997. Prior to moving to the Wesson campus he served as administrative assistant/assistant dean, and Dean on the Natchez campus from 1974-1985.

During his tenure as president, Co-Lin has seen growth in enrollment, programs, services, faculty, and facilities.

Garner's work with the Simpson County supervisors led to the construction of Co-Lin's Simpson County Center. The $4.17 million center, located on Highway 49 near Legion Lake between Mendenhall and Magee, opened in August 2005. The center offers a full array of academic classes and three career-technical programs. Enrollment continues to grow every year.

Construction of eight new buildings include the Fred & Jewet Taylor Chapel (1998), the Billy B. Thames Conference Center (1999), Lincoln and Lawrence Men's Residence Halls (2003), the Dow-Young Instructional Technology Building (2004), R. S. Parker Academic Building in Simpson County (2005), Baseball Field House (2006), and Football Weightlifting Facility (2007).

Renovations of 11 buildings include the Maggie Flowers Ewing Fine Arts Building Auditorium (1997), Henley Student Services Counseling Center and Wolf Den Conference Room (1998), Calendar Hall Grille (1998), Gertrude Mutton Building (1988, 2006, 2007), F. M. Fortenberry Building (2001), J. M. Ewing Administration Building (2000), Jessie Sandifer Communications Building (1999, 2003), and the R. E. Anderson Building (2004).

Co-Lin's latest renovation project, Willie H. Smith Hall, was completed this fall. This $2.6 million project expanded and updated science labs to state-of-the-art, created a much-needed suite of faculty offices with necessary conference and workspace, and enhanced the overall nature of the building. In addition, instructional technology was installed in classrooms as a separate part of the overall project. Plans are to build a fitness center that will be completed in Spring 2008.

"One of the things that I have most enjoyed is to have been a part of so many outstanding programs, such as the student organizations which have represented the college in an outstanding fashion through the years," Garner said. "I was thrilled to have been a part of the Eta Omega Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa being named the 'Most Distinguished' Chapter in April 2005. The chapter had previously been given that distinction in 1989. No other college in Mississippi has ever accomplished that distinction even once, much less twice!"

He initiated the Awards Day Program on the Natchez Campus in 1981and supported the initiation of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration in 1989. On the Wesson Campus he initiated the Scholars Bowl in 1986 and supported the initiation of the Science Quest, the Aficionado Series of the Community Arts Series and the Lecture Series, which had its beginning this year.

The college's athletic programs expanded during Garner's tenure, with the addition of men and women's soccer. All of Co-Lin's intercollegiate athletic programs (football, basketball, baseball, softball, tennis, and golf) have participated in national tournaments or bowl games, and student-athletes have been recognized for their academic excellence.

Garner has provided leadership at the state level through the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) and the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges (SBCJC). He was instrumental in the development of the Mississippi Virtual Community College for on-line instruction and currently serves as chairman of the Technology Oversight Committee.

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The weather was beautiful, the food was great, old classmates reconnected, and the Wolfpack won the game. Homecoming 2007 was a huge success. The day started off with the induction of five new members into the college's Sports Hall of Fame. Members of the class of 2007 are Chris Calcote (baseball), Curtis McMillan (football), Troy Greer (football), Tara Curtis (basketball), and the late Grady Jones, Jr. (football).

The Band and Colette Alumni Association inducted Dot and the late Ralph Franklin as the first members of their Hall of Fame. Franklin is a former Blue Wave Band director and Mrs. Franklin founded the Colettes.

The Alumni Association honored Bill Salters of Natchez and Tricia Walker of Cleveland as 2007 Alumni of the Year. Also honored were Brad Johnson, Outstanding Academic Instructor; Lisa Bodin, Outstanding Career-Technical Instructor; and Jeff Posey, Outstanding Staff.

The annual tailgate party featured entertainment by Delta State University's Ol Skool Band and Lisa and Alan Prudie provided the entertainment at the annual tailgate party. Entertainment for children included the rock climbing wall provided by the National Guard, inflatable slide and jumper, a hay ride, and face painting. Grilled chicken plates, hotdogs, and catfish plates provided by the Georgia-Pacific Catfish Cooking Team.

The Sojourners entertained the alumni and friends prior to the first presentation of the homecoming court.

Homecoming Golf Tournament

Ross, Hennington capture top prize in homecoming golf tournament

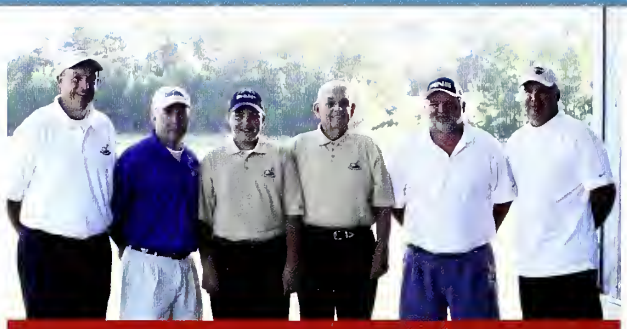
Director of Golf Operations Ronny Ross and Co-Lin Mathematics Instructor Craig Hennington captured first place by two strokes in the first flight at the annual Homecoming Golf Tournament at Wolf Hollow Golf Club. The duo shot a 59.

Taking second place honors with a 61 was the team of Jacob Ross and Ed Norwood. Third place went to the team of Chris Lofton and Ricky McInnis with a 64.

The team of Glynn Murray and Wayne Wilson captured first place in the second fight with a 70. Finishing one shot back was the team of Tommy Sasser and Kent Welch at 71. Third place went to the team of David Flowers and Jeremy Sokovich at 74.

On-course winners included Jeremy Sokovich, closest to the pin No. 4; Randy Allen, closest to the pin No. 8; Scott Ashley, closest to the pin No. 11; and Wayne Wilson, closest to the pin No. 14. Other winners included Alton Greenlee, longest putt No. 9 and Ricky McInnis, longest drive No. 9.

Twenty teams participated in the two-man scramble.



First flight winners in Co-Lin's annual men's homecoming golf tournament are from left, Ronny Ross and Craig Hennington, first place; Jacob Ross and Ed Norwood, second place; Chris Lofton and Ricky McInnis, third place.

Second flight winners in Co-Lin's annual homecoming golf tournament are from left, Wayne Wilson and Glynn Murray (not pictured), first place; Tommy Sasser and Kent Welch, second place; David Flowers and Jeremy Sokovich, third place.

First Flight:

Ronny Ross-Craig Hennington – 59
Jacob Ross-Ed Norwood – 61
Chris Lofton-Ricky McInnis – 64
Pete Dixon-R.C. Smith – 65
Scott Ashley-Tony McInnis – 65
Alton Greenlee-Sonny Hill – 66
Trent Maddox-Trey Maddox – 66
Albert Hennington-Bob Boone – 70
Justin Smith-Michael Tanner – 74
Jerod King-Brian Wagner – 74

Second Flight:

Glynn Murray-Wayne Wilson – 70
Tommy Sasser-Kent Welch – 71
David Flowers-Jeremy Sokovich – 74
Roger Maddox-Chase Ballard – 75
Billy Walker-Randy Allen – 75
Shelton Rogers-Paul Cade – 76
Bill Barksdale-Chris Calcote-77
Regan Allen-Kevin Behan – 77
Danny Dykes-J.P. McInnis – 78
Brandt Brantley-Darlene Ballard - 88

The members of the Copiah-Lincoln Community College High School Class of 1957 celebrated their 50th class reunion during recent homecoming activities. Members of the class include seated from left, Claudine Remington Stogner of Wesson, Mary Elizabeth Spell Boone of Florence, Patricia Farrar Parks of Ore City, Texas; Ernestine Case Gatlin of Bogue Chitto, Ollene McCray Whitehead of Brandon, Billy Douglas of Brookhaven, Shirley Keys Chamberlain of Brookhaven, Percy Jerome of Wesson; middle row from left, Margaret Smith Beasley of Terry, Vicki Furr Derrick of Clinton, Frank Bland of Union Church, Hulon Williams of Brandon, Bettye Lusk Boutwell of Wesson, Faye Case Stroud of Wesson, Donnie Lambert of Brandon, Cecil Brent of Hattiesburg; back row from left, Pete Bowlin of Flowood, Milton White of Jackson, Bobby Cox of Natchez, Walter Lee Storey of Picayune, Robert Newsome of Shreveport, La.; and Charles Hamilton of Wesson.

CLASS OF 1967 – The Copiah-Lincoln Community College Class of 1967 were honored during recent homecoming activities. Members of the class include seated from left, Becky Newsome Yarbrough of New Hebron, Keith Russell of Brandon, Barbara Russell Brock of Picayune, Terry Assink of Franklin, Tenn.; standing from left, Jane Ainsworth Smith of Brookhaven, Diane Payne McIntyre and Mike McIntyre of Wesson, Richard Wright of Brookhaven, Larry Greer of Ridgeland, Merle Scott of Natchez, Joe Frank of Natchez, and Janice Callender Boling of Brookhaven.

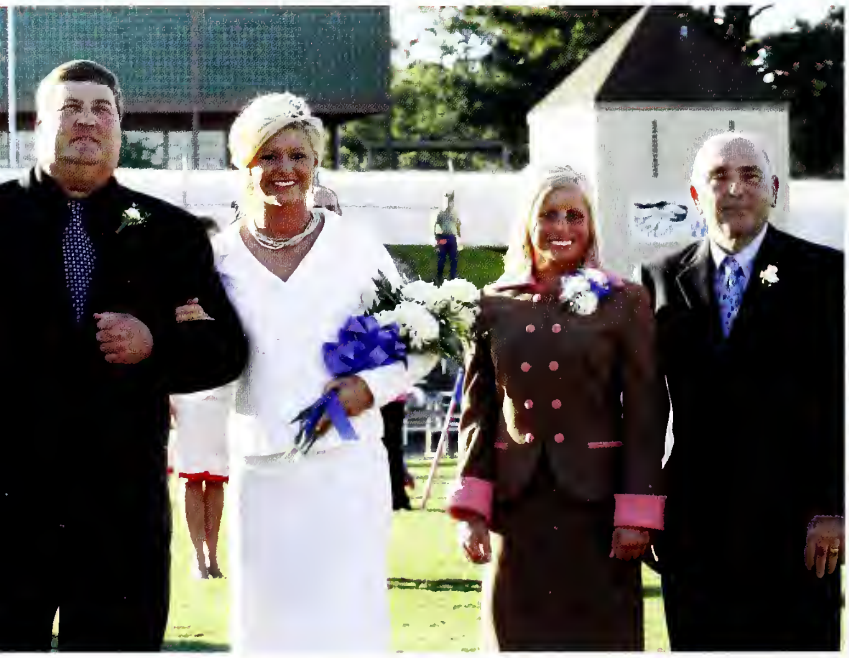
HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1952 – The members of the Copiah-Lincoln Community College High School Class of 1952 were honored during recent homecoming activities. Members of the class include seated from left, Mary Ann Smith Jasper of Wesson, Verna Bailey Coleman of Wesson, Marie Hester Miller, Miriam Middleton Moyer of Brookhaven, Betty Easley Williams of Hemphill, Texas; Dorothy Matthews Harris, Russell Smith of Austin, Texas; standing from left, Larry Barlow of Wesson, Ken Corban of Dallas, Texas; Jack Coleman of Jasper, Texas; Mike Lusk, Sr. of Wesson; and Johnny Weeks of Terry.

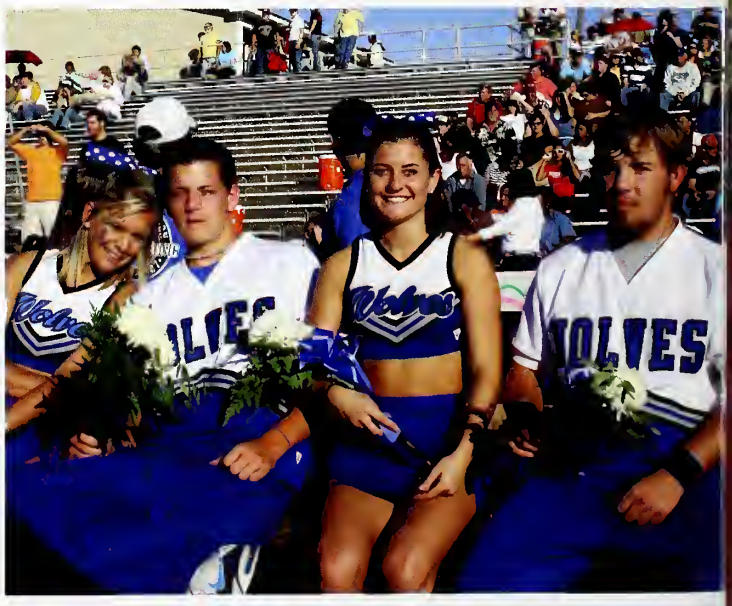
Class of 1947: Pauline F. Stokes of Summit (left) and Betty Pope of Clinton.

Cheerleader 10 Year Reunion

Over 50 former and current Co-Lin cheerleaders from the Twyana Morse era (1997-2007) were honored at a reception at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Howell Garner. They also performed at halftime of the homecoming football game.

CLASS OF 1997 – The Copiah-Lincoln Community College Class of 1997 were honored during recent homecoming activities. Members of the class include from left, Mandy (Hart) Case of Wesson, Sherry (Chance) Pippen of Monticello, Jessica (Newell) Smith of Brookhaven, Dara (Callender) Evans of Madison, Celeste (Jones) Williamson of Brookhaven, Lance and Ary (Rice) Mize of Brookhaven, and Emily (Allen) and Jason Childress of Brookhaven.





854th Medical Collecting Company

The members the 854th Medical Collecting Company gathered on Friday, October 11 for their annual reunion.

HOMECOMING ROYALTY: Members of Copiah-Lincoln Community College's 2007 Homecoming Court are from left, Amanda Blair of Brookhaven, freshman maid Wesson campus; Rachel Blair of Brookhaven, sophomore maid Wesson campus; Casey Edwards of Natchez, freshman maid Natchez campus; Renada Newell of Natchez, sophomore maid Natchez campus; Madison Morgan of Magee, freshman maid Simpson County Center, Caitlin Johnson of Natchez, freshman maid Wesson campus; Meleah Brown of Bogue Chitto, 2007 homecoming queen; Shaina Cain of Mize, sophomore maid Simpson County Center; Brittany Hutchinson of Monticello, sophomore maid Wesson campus; Courtney Timm of Natchez, freshman maid Natchez campus; Carlie Smith of Brookhaven, freshman maid Wesson campus; Ashlea Rand of Natchez, sophomore maid Natchez campus; Lindsey Mills of Brookhaven, sophomore maid Wesson campus. The members of the homecoming court were escorted by their fathers and other family members.

Community Arts Series

| Celebrates its 27th Season |

The Community Arts Aficionado Series kicks off the second half of an exciting season with performances by the Borealis Wind Quintet, pianist Frank Wiens, and the Camerata Bariloche Chamber Orchestra.

Borealis Wind Quintet
February 5, 2008, 7:30 p.m.
Rea Auditorium

The Borealis Wind Quintet is one of America's preeminent chamber ensembles. It has recently been honored as the first wind quintet to receive a Grammy Nomination for Best Chamber Music Performance.

Frank Wiens
February 19, 2008, 7:30 p.m.
Rea Auditorium

Frank Wiens' piano performances have been critically acclaimed. His compact disc recording "Rachmaninov," has been described by one reviewer as "dazzling, yet rich in solid detail...brilliant clarity and absolute conviction...truly suave and elegant playing."

Camerata Bariloche Chamber Orchestra
March 4, 2008, 7:30 p.m.
Rea Auditorium

Since its inception in 1967 the Camerata Bariloche has developed into Argentina's preeminent chamber orchestra. It has performed at major concert halls across the world including the Salle Pleyel, Paris; Carnegie Hall, New York; and the Brahms Saal, Vienna.

The first half of the season featured world renowned pianist Randall Atcheson and a dynamic performance by the Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company.

Season tickets are still available for these performances and the post-concert receptions. Tickets may be purchased at the Co-Lin Business Office on the Wesson campus for $50 (adults), $40 (senior adults), and $20 (students).

Single performance tickets for Randall Atcheson, the Borealis Wind Quintet, and Frank Wiens are $16 for Adults, $14 for Senior Adults, and $10 for Students. Single performance tickets for the Nai Ni Chen Dance Company and Camerata Bariloche are $20 for Adults, $16 for Senior Adults and $12 for Students.

Highlighting the second half of the popular Showcase Series this season are performances by Ukrainian pianist Alexei Grynyuk, and lyric soprano and Co-Lin vocal instructor Denise Riley.

Alexei Grynyuk
Jan. 22, 2008, 7:30 p.m.
Rea Auditorium

A veteran of numerous international competitions, acclaimed Ukrainian pianist, Alexei Grynyuk has distinguished himself not only as a virtuoso but also as a sensitive, highly thoughtful musician.

Denise Riley
April 1, 2008, 7:30 p.m.
Fine Arts Auditorium

An accomplished lyric soprano soloist, Denise Riley has performed throughout Mississippi. Gerald Claxton, professor emeritus from Mississippi College will accompany Ms. Riley.

The first half of the season included a performance by trumpeter Darcie Bishop and an art exhibit by Amy Giust. All Showcase Series performances are free and the public is cordially invited.

For more information contact Brad Johnson at (601) 643-8431 or Denise Riley at (601) 643-8434.

Smith Hall

renovation complete

By Natalie Davis

After much anticipation and planning, the renovation of Willie H. Smith Hall on the Wesson campus, which began in May, was completed in mid-September. Although some classrooms were completed by the time school began on Aug. 13, a number of classes were held in alternate locations on campus. Weather and technical difficulties delayed the project.

"We are very pleased to have been able to upgrade this 1968 facility to reflect modern features in an academic classroom building," said Co-Lin President Dr. Howell Garner.

The $2.6 million project included enclosing the walkways of the building with tempered glass, installation of a new heating and cooling system, the creation of a new faculty office suite with space for conference and workspace, and five new science labs on the second floor. The project continued to grow when a new EPA regulation required an extensive ventilation project.

The renovation was developed as a result of discussions held in the summer of 2005 during the President's Cabinet Retreat. The project required extensive planning by the college administration and by Carl Nobles, architect.

In addition, instructional technology was installed in classrooms by the technology division of the college as a separate part of the overall project and as a separate cost to the college – estimated cost $75,000.

> We particularly wanted to have all of the classrooms equipped with the latest technology, which allows instructors to incorporate material otherwise inaccessible into their teaching.
>
> *- Dr. Howell Garner*

We really appreciate the cooperation and patience of all faculty and staff during the time of construction. We're excited that this project is now virtually complete."

Dickerson Appointed Dean of Simpson Co. Center

John R. Dickerson has been appointed Dean of Co-Lin's Simpson County Center. Dickerson began his duties on July 1, 2007.

"We are very excited to have Mr. Dickerson as the new Dean of the Simpson County Center. He brings a wealth of experience and knowledge of higher education in Mississippi to Co-Lin and to the Center in particular," said Co-Lin President Dr. Howell Garner. "He is very familiar with Co-Lin, as well as the Mississippi Community College system as a whole. He will be a great asset to our administrative team at Co-Lin."

Continued on page 14

Co-Lin Begins New Lecture Series

By Natalie Davis

Copiah-Lincoln Community College began a new lecture series in 2007-2008 on the college's Wesson campus. The third and final guest speaker of the series is United States Southern District of Mississippi Judge Keith Starrett. Judge Starrett will present two lectures on "Ethics" on Monday, March 31, 2008, at 10 a.m. in Rea Auditorium and 6 p.m. in the Ewing Fine Arts Auditorium.

Starrett received his bachelor's degree from Mississippi State University and his Juris Doctorate from the University of Mississippi School of Law. He was appointed to the Circuit Court bench in 1992. Starrett was elected circuit judge in 1994 and served in that capacity for 12 ½ years. In 2005 he was appointed to the Federal Bench and presently serves as United States District Judge for the Southern District of Mississippi in the Hattiesburg Division.

The first lecture of the series featured Brig. Gen Robert Crear, commander of the Mississippi Valley Division and president of the Mississippi River Commission. Crear spoke on the efforts of the United States Corp of Engineers efforts before and after hurricane Katrina.

The second lecture in the series featured U. S. Navy Col. Robert Thomas. Thomas addressed his efforts in the aftermath of the Abu Ghraib debacle in Iraq.

All lectures are free and the public is cordially invited to attend. Receptions will be held at The Billy B. Thames Conference Center following all evening lectures.

The 2007 Co-Lin lecture series is sponsored in part by the Mississippi Humanities Council and Co-Lin alumni C. Coney Burgess ('57).

For more information contact Leslie Hood at (601) 643-8433 or Dr. Kevin McKone at (601) 643-8450.

Continued from page 13, Dickerson Appointed Dean :
Dickerson served as Senior Associate Director of Admissions and Scholarships at Mississippi State University. He has held other positions at MSU including Associate Director of Admissions and Scholarships, Director of Enrollment Services and Association Director of Enrollment Services.

Prior to joining the MSU staff, Dickerson worked at Mississippi College holding the positions of Associate Dean of Students, Associate Director of Admissions, Acting Director of Recruitment, and Admissions Counselor.

"I am excited to be part of the Copiah-Lincoln family," Dickerson said. "In my years working with the Co-Lin administration, faculty and staff, their commitment to educational excellence while meeting the needs of students was always evident. I am excited about what is taking place there to meet the educational needs of the community. An outstanding group of faculty and staff are in place to continue the progress that has been made in providing a quality educational experience to the residents of Simpson County."

He is a graduate of Hinds Community College and Mississippi College. Dickerson received his master's in counselor education from Mississippi State University and will receive his Ph.D. in community college leadership in December 2007.

An active member of the community, Dickerson is a member of the Mississippi Association of College Registrars and Admissions Officers (MCARAO) and an All-USA/Guistwhite Academic Team Selection Judge for Phi Theta Kappa International. He has served on numerous committees at MSU, coached in the Starkville Baseball Association, Starkville Youth Soccer Organization and Upward Basketball as well as participated in the Foster Parent Program for MSU Baseball. He is a trustee, deacon and bible study teacher at CrossPoint Church in Starkville.

Copiah-Lincoln Community College opened the Simpson County Center in the fall of 2005. Dr. Billy Stewart served as the first dean at the Center. Dr. Rhonda Smith, who has served as acting dean since Aug. 1, 2006, will resume her duties as a humanities instructor at the Center. The Simpson County Center is located on Hwy. 49 between Magee and Mendenhall next to Legion Lake.

NLCC to Honor Natchez Native

| Natchez Literacy & Cinema Celebration |

By Carolyn Vance Smith

The life and works of Richard Wright, a famed native son of Natchez, will be celebrated on the centennial of his birth during the 19th annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Feb. 20-24, 2008.

The conference theme is "Richard Wright, the South, and the World: A Centennial Celebration," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College, founder and co-chairman of the event.

"We are pleased that the Natchez conference will kick off a world-wide, year-long focus on Richard Wright," she said.

Wright wrote such blockbusters as "Native Son," "Black Boy," "Lawd Today," "White Man Listen" and "Uncle Tom's Children," which has been chosen as Book of the Year for the Mississippi Reads Project.

Wright, born in 1908 near Natchez, died in 1960 in Paris, France.

"He will come alive during the conference," Smith said. "His love of family, books, music, food, drama, photography, film and acting will be discussed, along with scholarly criticism of his works.

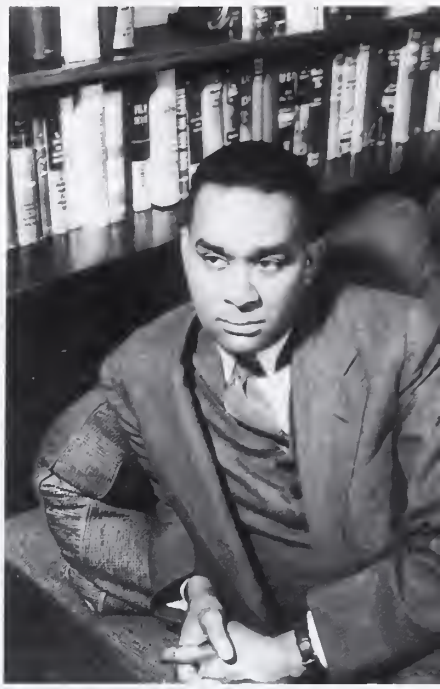
"His daughter, Julia Wright, of Paris, will be the keynote speaker, and dozens of family members from around the world are planning to attend."

The first-ever "Richard Wright Ramble," a guided tour of sites associated with Richard Wright and the Wright family, is being organized by Charles Wright of Natchez, a cousin who is family historian.

The tour, which will take place during the conference, includes Natchez-area home places, churches, schools, cemeteries and locations featured in Wright's novels.

"Scholars and authors from the United States and Europe will present programs about Richard Wright's works and those of his colleagues," Smith said.

In addition to programs are films, documentaries, a dramatic version of "Native Son" by the Natchez Little Theatre, meals featuring Wright's favorite foods, writing workshops, exhibits and a gala benefit reception and dinner at the historic mansion, The Towers.



A highlight each year is an awards ceremony which honors three outstanding writers with Southern roots. An Evening with the Stars, honoring outstanding writers with Southern roots, will take place at 5:30 p.m., Feb. 23.

Winning the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award, named in honor of the famous author, are two writers who were both born in Mississippi. They are Lerone Bennett, Jr., now of Chicago, Ill., and Brooks Haxton, now of Syracuse University, Syracuse, N.Y.

Bennett was longtime editor of Ebony and author of "Before the Mayflower: A History of Black America 1619-1966," "Great Moments in Black History" and more than a dozen other books.

Haxton, an accomplished poet, is a professor at Syracuse University and author of "Uproar: Antiphonies to Psalms" and many other volumes of poetry. Numerous Haxton relatives live in Mississippi, including his mother, Josephine Haxton, who uses the pen name, Ellen Douglas.

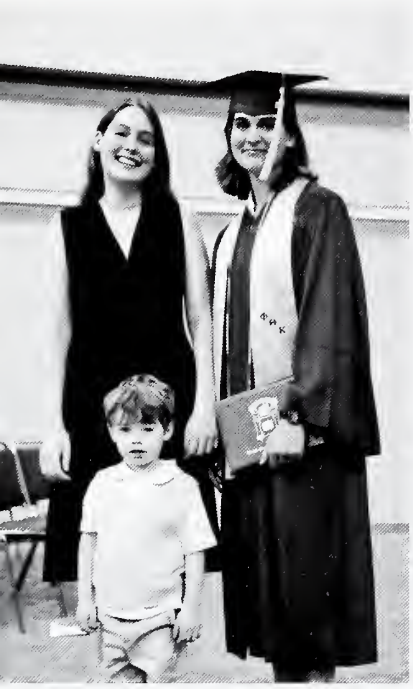
The Horton Foote Award for Special Achievement in Screenwriting, named in honor of the Pulitzer Prize-winning screenwriter, will be presented to another Pulitzer Prize-winner, Alfred Uhry, a Georgia native now of New York, N.Y.

Uhry is a noted playwright, lyricist and screenwriter of "Driving Miss Daisy," "The Robber Bridegroom," "Mystic Pizza," and "Rich in Love."

Continued on page 20

Siblings Excel at Natchez Campus

by Mark LaFrancis



Growing up together in Natchez, Danielle and Tevah Saxon shared many experiences. Both were home-schooled; both enjoyed each other's company; both were babysitters, and both attended Copiah-Lincoln Community College's Natchez campus.

That's hardly where the commonality ended; in fact, it flourished even more at Co-Lin. Both became campus leaders, belonged to Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, earning scholarships, were named student of the month, were selected for "Who's Who Among Students in America's Junior Colleges," and spoke at their respective commencement ceremonies. And, both were selected for inclusion in the Co-Lin Natchez Hall of Fame, the school's highest honor for students.

Following graduation – Danielle in 2002 and Tevah in 2006 – they enrolled in nursing programs at Alcorn State University across the street from Co-Lin's Natchez campus. Danielle, 26, earned a bachelor's degree in nursing and is pursuing a master's degree in nursing, while Tevah, 23, is studying for a bachelor's degree in nursing.

Both credit Co-Lin with providing education and inspiration. "Co-Lin provided a nurturing environment with supportive instructors and staff, small class sizes, one-on-one attention when needed, and opportunities to develop lasting friendships in the many clubs and organizations," Danielle said.

Tevah added, "After home-schooling through high school, taking classes at Co-Lin was my first formal learning experience, and it really made an impression on me. I was scared to death that I wouldn't make it through my first semester. After a while, I realized that I loved the instructors and staff, the small class sizes, and the friendly atmosphere of the school. I get 'warm fuzzies' when I'm there to use the library or for a function."

Each sister also has her "Co-Lin moment" she won't forget. "When I was getting ready to leave Co-Lin, I was asked to give an impromptu speech at a teacher's appreciation luncheon," Danielle said. "As I spoke about how the teachers at Co-Lin had positively impacted my life, I got so choked up I could hardly continue - that's when I realized how much the people at Co-Lin meant to me and how much I would miss them!"

For Tevah, there were many moments. "There are infinitely many Co-Lin moments I won't forget. I still remember many of the facial expressions, gestures and phrases, personalities of my instructors and the flavors of their teaching styles. I feel like I've learned more than subject content from them - something about each instructor, whether it was their passion for their work, their genuine concern for their students, their personal or professional integrity."

Tevah continued, "I will of course always remember the awards nights and the awards I received; they were always a surprise, an honor, and felt so special."
Sharing the Hall of Fame is especially endearing, they said.

"It's great," Tevah said. "I've always been proud of her (Danielle) and enjoyed looking at her picture in the hall. It helped me to feel more at home at Co-Lin, everything less intimidating. I had feared when I started taking classes that I would feel pressured to perform at the same level as she did but, pleasantly, that never materialized."

Danielle added, "I always knew she (Tevah) would succeed, even if sometimes she couldn't see it herself."

Both also point to family for influencing their lives. Danielle said, "My parents, Bill and Beverly Saxon, influenced me the most of all - they taught me perseverance, honesty, and caring. Also the great instructors at Co-Lin who helped me succeed in my education and were there for me throughout my time at Co-Lin."

"My sister (Danielle) has been a great influence on me," Tevah said. "Her dedication to school and her work have inspired me to push harder and try new things I'm not sure I would have otherwise."

Continued on page 17

| Pitts Scholarship Recipients |

By Natalie Davis

Nine Copiah-Lincoln Community College instructors were the recipients of the L. Frank Pitts Faculty Development Scholarships for Fall 2007. Grants were awarded to Amy Case, humanities instructor Wesson campus; Amy Cupit, mathematics instructor Wesson campus; Dr. Stephanie Duguid, assistant dean of career & technical education Natchez campus; Carol Ford, mathematics instructor Wesson campus; Leslie Hood, microbiology and biology instructor Wesson campus; and Amye Howell, reading instructor Wesson campus; Mark LaFrancis, director of public information Natchez campus; Nancy McLemore, library director Natchez campus; and Judy Wiggins, English instructor Natchez campus.

The Copiah-Lincoln Faculty Development Committee and the Copiah-Lincoln Community College Foundation have approved grants for professional development from the L Frank Pitts Endowment Fund. Grants may be used by faculty to attend a national or regional conference that will enhance their knowledge in a field and improve their instruction in the classroom. This year, grants totaling approximately $6,000 were awarded to the faculty and staff.

Applicants are required to submit to the committee a description of the conference workshop, how it relates to their subject area, implementation plan and plan for sharing information gathered with other faculty and staff.

Co-Lin faculty and staff recipients of the L. Frank Pitts Faculty Development Scholarships on the Wesson campus are from left, Leslie Hood of Utica, Carol Ford of Hazlehurst, Amy Cupit, Amy Case, and Amye Howell, all of Brookhaven.

Co-Lin Receives Halbrook Award

Co-Lin received the Halbrook Award for having the greatest percentage growth in the number of athletes who graduate. The college's graduation rate for athletes went from 71 percent to 91 percent.

Dr. Howell Garner, college president, accepted the award at the annual meeting of the Mississippi Association of Colleges. The award included a check for $1,000. Awards are given in the Institution of Higher learning Division, Private College Division, and Community College Division.

Foundation to Host Luncheon, Fashion Show

The Co-Lin Foundation will host its first annual spring fashion show and luncheon April 22 in The Thames Center on the Wesson Campus. The program will begin at 11:30 a.m. Tickets are available through the Co-Lin Foundation office by calling (601) 643-8313.

The fashion show will feature special occasion wear, casual attire, career wear, and sportswear. Local models will wear attire proved by area businesses.

The event is a fundraiser for the Foundation, and money raised will go to support programs of the college. The Foundation supports many programs of the college including providing more than 120 student scholarships and scholarships for faculty enhancement.

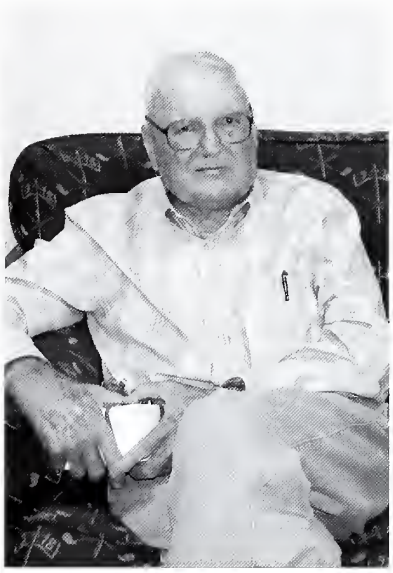
Continued from page 16, Siblings Excel: Their futures seem just as entwined as their present and past. Like her sister, Danielle, Tevah hopes to pursue a master's degree in nursing. Both said they want to make a difference in peoples' lives. And, although they do not live with one another, they spend time together and with Danielle's son, Kai, who is 4.

And who knows, Danielle said, "Maybe one day we can take a travel nursing assignment in Hawaii together."

Co-Lin trained World War II Pilots

By David Campbell

America was attempting to remain neutral, but the odor of war was in the air when Copiah-Lincoln Community College added an aviation course to its curriculum. Civilian pilot training was begun in February of 1941. By December 8 there was an urgent need for soldiers. The Japanese had crushed Pearl Harbor with a surprise bombing, and days later Germany and Italy declared war on the United States.



Harold G. Hillebert of Canton was a student in first semester aviation class of the 1941-42 school year when he heard of the bombing of Pearl Harbor over the radio in a car he was riding in hitchhiking. "I didn't even know where Pearl Harbor was," he said. He also didn't realize how it would change his life.

Hillebert had arrived at Co-Lin in Wesson in 1940 hitchhiking from Canton with a dream of becoming a veterinarian. At Co-Lin he enrolled in general agriculture. A neighbor encouraged him to go to college after high school. He told her, "My family can't send me and I don't have any money."

The neighbor gave Hillebert a letter to deliver to Co-Lin president James M. Ewing. After reading the letter, Ewing gave Hillebert a job sweeping classrooms on one floor of a campus building. He was paid seven cents per hour for two hours a day. His family came up with an additional $13 per month for him to attend school. When the aviation class was started, Hillebert jumped at a chance to enroll.

Pickup load went to McComb

"We all loaded up in a school pickup to go take a physical for the course," he said. "The front and back of the truck was full of students." Hillebert realized he was probably underweight and expressed concerns to the others in the truck. "We stopped at Brookhaven and bought a sack of bananas. I ate bananas all the way to McComb and the doctor's office," he said.

When he stepped on the scales, he was still underweight. A fellow student pushed down on his head with the part of the scales used to measure height and said to the doctor, "Look doc, he weighs enough." Hillebert passed the physical, became an aviation student and earned private pilot license.

The course, "Aviation 200 – Ground School and Flight Training," was started in cooperation with the Civil Aeronautics Authority, according to a 1941-42 college catalogue. The training consisted of 72 hours of ground school and 35 to 40 hours of flight training taken at the airport in Brookhaven.

Personnel from the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and convicts from the "Lincoln County farm" helped prepare the airport for the pilot training, an issue of Colin Chatter from that era reported. The story in

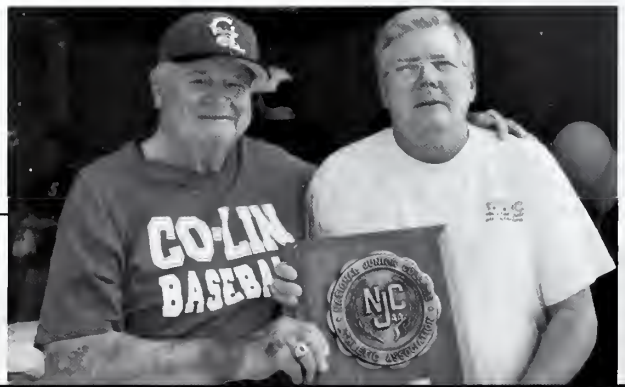
Continued on page 21

Co-Lin Loses Beloved Alumni

Chunkin' Charlie Ward, a standout in three sports in the late 1930s at Co-Lin, was killed in an automobile accident at Brandon in September 2007. Ward was selected All-State in both football and basketball at Co-Lin in 1938. He was also an outstanding baseball player. After playing at Co-Lin, he was a sports star at Millsaps College.

The Pelahatchie native was a charter member of the Co-Lin Sports Hall of Fame and was at age 89, the second oldest member of the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame.

Ward was a stanch supporter of Co-Lin athletics, frequently attending games with his wife Reba, and was part of the leadership of the Co-Lin Athletic Alumni Association of which he was a past president. He was also named Co-Lin's Alumni of the Year in 1987.



Chunkin' Charlie Ward (left) with the late Dennis White as they welcomed the Co-Lin baseball team back from the 2005 World Series.

Congratulations

Bennie Kimble ('55) of Ellisville was inducted into the Holmes Community College Sports Hall of Fame. He ended a 27-year coaching career in 1997 when he retired from Holmes Community College as men's head basketball coach. Kimble was an outstanding basketball player at Co-Lin and then at Southeastern Louisiana University. He was inducted in the Co-Lin Sports Hall of Fame in 1996.

Bill Salters ('75) is a proud grandparent of four. The newest is Macy Rebecca Loy born August 17, 2007. Bill also was promoted to Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President at Britton & Kunz Bank, Natchez.

Glenda Gill Silverii ('86) was named Humanities Instructor of the Year at Co-Lin. She has taught at Co-Lin since 2000 and teaches English Composition I and II, creative writing and African American literature.

Joe W. Byrd ('85) of Brookhaven has been elected vice president of the Mississippi Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Surveyors.

James C. Chapman ('98), Baton Rouge, La., is a product manager in flame retardants for Albemarle Corporation.

Leigh Ann Martin (attended) has been named consumer leader at State Bank & Trust Company, Brookhaven.

Judy Green (attended) has been promoted to branch manager at State Bank & Trust Company, Brookhaven.

Wedding Bells

Walter Lance Beesley ('99) married Marissa Rose McJohnson on September 22, 2007. He is currently employed by Entergy Mississippi in Natchez.

Bonita Rogers ('00) married Andre' Montgomery on October 13, 2007. She is currently a design engineer.

Dana Renae Brooks ('01) married **Alexander Lewis Shoemake** ('00) on September 29, 2007. She is currently employed with Wal-Mart Pharmacy as a pharmacist. He is currently employed with Paul Jackson and Son Inc. as a project manager.

Yolanda Williams ('02) married **Hue Kinzie** (attended) on September 15, 2007. She is currently a registered nurse employed at Baptist Health Systems. He is currently employed at Kuhlman Electric.

Lara Carson ('04) married Brian Williams on July 2, 2007. Lara is currently employed with Brookhaven Monument Company Inc. as a designer.

Stacy A. Lawrence ('04) married Corey S. Douchard on November 17, 2007. She is currently employed with the Robenee Salon and Day Spa.

Ayana Tillman ('05) married **Nicholas D. Smith** ('03) on September 29, 2007. She is currently employed with McClane Southern as a selector. He is currently employed with the Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility where he specializes in child development.

Danica Boyd (attended) married Jason M. Boyd on November 3, 2007. She is currently a junior at the University of Mississippi where she is an elementary education major.

Betty Smith (attended) married Jimmy Gates. On October 13, 2007. She is currently employed with Genesis Physical Therapy in Ridgeland.

New Arrivals

Elton ('72) **and Cynthia Chatham Lewis** ('87) welcomed their first grandchild, Margaret Lee (Meg) Kelly, on Friday, August 31, 2007. Proud parents are Josh and Bobbi Kelly of Meadville. Elton is currently employed at Co-Lin as a counselor.

Dana Thornhill Hux ('03) and Luke Hux are the proud parents of Emily Kathleen born on August 16, 2007.

Ancy Myers Rushing ('04) and **Joseph Rushing** ('04) are the proud parent of Gunnar Joseph born on August 27, 2007.

Matt and Nikki McClain welcomed their first son, Matthew Taylor, on August 29, 2007. Matt is an athletic trainer at Co-Lin.

In Memoriam

Lorena B. Newman ('30) of Liberty passed away on August 31, 2007.

Miss Althea Stone ('39) passed away. She was a retired English teacher and member of the Pine Belt Area Retired Educators Association of Mississippi.

Elbert "Bert" Shepard Lambert, Sr. ('51) passed away on September 6, 2007. He began his career with the federal government as an air control tower operator for the Civil Aeronautics Administration (today's FAA). He served as Chief of Requirements of the Communications Systems of the U.S. Air Force. Mr. Lambert was a 32nd degree Mason. He served as president of Monticello Lions Club and vice president of Gideons, Biloxi. He also served as president of Lawrence County Cattleman's Association, vice president of the Lawrence County Farm Bureau, and as a committee member and president of the CFSA.

Mary Nell Hall West ('66) passed away on April 2, 2006. While at Co- Lin she was a cheerleader and a Colette. After attending Co- Lin she received a B.S. in education from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1968 and her Masters of Education in 1977. She was a teacher for 31 years before retiring.

Meschell Sheppard Chambers ('85) passed away on October 12, 2007 after a long illness. While at Co-Lin she was active on the Trillium staff.

Peyton Dejuan Culver (current student) passed away on August 20, 2007 in an automobile accident. He was a member of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church.

Larry T. "Pedda" Williams (current student) passed away on August 20, 2007 in an automobile accident. He was a member of Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church where he severed as an usher and a choir member. He was a freshman on the Wolfpack football team.

Loyce Bell Hailey (attended) passed away on September 11, 2007. She was a member of Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church. She was also a charter member of the Institute for Learning in Retirement, the Fifty-Plus Club and a member of Cherokee Rose Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution.

Annie Mae McDaniel Bee (attended) passed away on September 10, 2007. She was a former behaviorist at Lincoln Residential Center. She was also a member of Siloam M.B. Church.

John Caleb Stowers (attended) passed away August 8, 2007. He worked in Clear Lake City, Houston, and Austin.

Continued from page 15, NLCC to Honor: "Driving Miss Daisy" will be screened following the awards ceremony, with a discussion session led by Uhry and Dixon McDowell, professor of film at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Most of the conference is free of charge.

Co-chairmen and sponsors are Carolyn Vance Smith and Copiah-Lincoln Community College; Kathleen Jenkins and the Natchez National Historical Park; Jim Barnett and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History; and Marie Antoon and the Mississippi Public Broadcasting. Partial funding is from the Mississippi Humanities Council.

Information and tickets for meals, the play, the tour and writing workshops are available by calling 601-446-1289 or toll-free, 866-296-6522, emailing *kkaho6769@st.colin.edu*, or visiting *www.colin.edu/nlcc*.

Continuing Education Units for teachers are available by calling 601-445-2848 or emailing *STBMorris@natchezk12.ms.us*. Information about housing is available by visiting *www.visitnatchez.com*.

Continued from page 6, Dr. Garner Retires: Garner also chairs the Mississippi Rural Health Corps Committee and the Phi Theta Kappa All-Mississippi Recognition Steering Committee. Garner led in the initiation of the Mississippi Community College Sports Hall of Fame last year. He currently serves as vice chairman of the MACJC and as vice chair of the Legislative Committee for the MACJC. Garner serves on the boards for the Mississippi Community College Foundation and the Mississippi Higher Education Assistance Corp. and is a member of the Public Education Forum Board of Governors. Past leadership roles include chair of the Career-Technical Education Study Committee and service on the Statewide Funding Study Committee for Mississippi's fifteen community colleges.

Garner is active in the local community, having served on the boards of the Wesson Chamber of Commerce (President in 1991), Trustmark National Bank Advisory Board for Hazlehurst Bank, and the Copiah County Economic Development District. He is a member of the Wesson Lions Club and has held numerous district and state offices in Lions International, Boy Scouts of America, Central Mississippi Chapter of the American Red Cross and the Copiah Competitive Community Leadership Program.

Throughout the years Garner has received notable honors including Who's Who in American Education, Honorary Member of Phi Theta Kappa, National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development Master Teacher Award (1989, 1996), Phi Theta Kappa Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction, Phi Theta Kappa Ambassador for the Mississippi-Louisiana Region, Phi Theta Kappa Eta Omega Chapter Rod Risley Leadership Award, and Lions International President's Certificate of Appreciation and Leadership Awards.

Garner is a member, deacon and Sunday school teacher and is currently serving on the Restoration II Committee at First Baptist Church in Brookhaven. He and his wife, Candace are the parents of two sons, Brad and Justin.

Following the acceptance of Garner's resignation, the Board of Trustees appointed Dr. Ronald E. Nettles, II, as Co-Lin's seventh president effective July 1, 2008.

Wolfpack Pride . . .
A Traditionof Excellence

The Annual Fund Campaign

Co-Lin's Annual Fund Campaign is an opportunity for you to invest in Copiah-Lincoln Community College and the people it serves.

Gifts from people like you combined with other private resources and state funding enable the College to provide an atmosphere in which students are challenged and encouraged.

Your gift will help bridge the gap between Co-Lin's essential needs and available funding. Private support from individuals like you makes the difference between a budget that provides a minimal level of support for teaching and faculty development and a budget that means an enhanced educational experience that goes beyond the ordinary.

Will you please join with me to makeup that vital margin needed to continue Co-Lin as one of the outstanding community colleges in Mississippi?

Dr. Howell Garner, President

Support Co-Lin.

Why an Annual Fund?

In recent years, state support has accounted for a smaller and smaller portion of Co-Lin's total operating budget, yet competition for top faculty and students has never been more intense. Consequently, Co-Lin has had to increase its level of private support.

Co-Lin's long range plan to become an even better college will require increased program support, professional development opportunities for faculty and staff and expanded facilities. Despite continued funding needs, Copiah-Lincoln Community College has met the challenge and established a strong reputation for excellence. Your college needs your help to further these accomplishments.

Any gift from you will make a difference at Co-Lin.

How your gift will help?

It is certainly true that tax dollars assist Copiah-Lincoln Community College. It is also true that no college ever became great with public funding alone. Co-Lin's goal is to be the best educational institution of its kind in Mississippi. We have a great beginning... We need your help to continue.

The size of your gift is not as important as the fact that you do give. What might seem small to you, when grouped together with other gifts, can make a real difference.

Your private gift can provide funds for:

- Student scholarships
- Student recruitment
- Research and faculty development
- Educational materials and equipment
- Library books and periodicals
- Campus beautification
- College promotions
- Athletics
- Capital improvements
- And more

___ **UNRESTRICTED** – the best way to give. This allows the college to take advantage of opportunities and to meet its needs as they arise.

___ Restrict my money to be used only for:

- ___ General Scholarship Fund
- ___ Faculty/Staff Enhancement Fund
- ___ Big Wolf Club-Athletics
- ___ Other _____
  - ___ Wesson Campus
  - ___ Natchez Campus
  - ___ Simpson County Center

YES, I want to be a part of the PACK!
I/We want to contribute to the Annual Fund.

Double your dollars – *If you work for a matching gift company, remember to enclose your company matching gift form.*

Enclosed is my check, in the amount of:

____$25 ____$50 ____$100 _____other

Here's a gift from: Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Phone: _____

Mail to: Co-Lin Foundation • P. O. Box 649 • Wesson, MS 39191

Continued from page 18, Co-Lin Trained WWII: Colin Chatter also identified "Piper Cubs or Aeroncas" as the two planes being used in the training.

Hillebert hitchhiked home when he graduated from Co-Lin and attempted to enter military flight school. He was turned down for being underweight. Afterwards he was drafted and eventually became a B24 bomber pilot and flew in Italy during World War II as a first lieutenant.

When he returned from the war, Hillebert drove to Mississippi State University instead of hitchhiked. He had saved and bought a 1936 Ford. At Mississippi State he graduated in general agriculture and had a career in dairy farming and with the Soil Conservation Service now known as the Natural Resource Conservation Service.

"I married a smart girl," he said explaining that after becoming successful as a dairy farmer he sold the farm and took a job with the Soil Conservation Service. He said when the farm was debt free his wife, Genie, asked him, "Why not sell the cows and tractors, bank the money and get a job like other people?" Hillebert did and retired in 1987 from the Soil Conservation Service. Hillebert and his wife, now deceased, have one daughter, Susan, who is a pediatrician in Memphis, Tenn.

Grover Smith, now deceased, was also a member of the fall 1941 aviation class. He later served as dean of men at Co-Lin and has a campus street named for him. He also served in the military but not as a pilot.

Memphis Bell connection

Bill Beasley was a member of the first class in February 1941. Robin Hicks, a student at Co-Lin in 1997, interviewed Beasley for a class paper. Beasley told her he was a member of the 91st Bomb Group of the 8th Air Force, on which the 1990 movie "The Memphis Belle" was based.

In her paper, Hicks said Beasley shot movie footage for a documentary entitled "The Memphis Bell." The screen movie grew out of the documentary. "In the (screen) movie, it was the Memphis Bell pilot kissing the ground, but in real life it was me." Beasley told Hicks.

Hillebert, Smith and Beasley are part of Co-Lin's contribution to defending America during World War II.

Calendar Events

Monday, January 21, 2008
State/National Holiday

Tuesday, January 22, 2008
Community Arts Showcase Concert – Alexei Grynyuk

Tuesday, February 5, 2008
Community Arts Series Aficionado Series – Borealis Wind Quintet

Tuesday, February 19, 2008
Community Arts Series – Frank Weins

Wednesday-Sunday, February 20-24, 2008
Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration

Tuesday, March 4, 2008
Community Arts Series – Camerata Bariloche Chamber Orchestra

Monday-Friday, March 10-14, 2008
Spring Holidays

Friday & Monday, March 21 & 24, 2008
Easter Holidays

Saturday, March 29, 2008
Major Donor Banquet – Wesson Campus

Monday, March 31, 2008
Lecture Series – Judge Keith Starrett

Tuesday, April 1, 2008
Community Arts Series – Denise Riley

Monday, April 14, 2008
Simpson County Center – Awards Day

Tuesday, April 15, 2008
Natchez Campus – Awards Day

Wednesday, April 16, 2008
Wesson Campus – Awards Day
Foundation Scholarship Reception

Tuesday, April 22, 2008
Foundation Luncheon/Fashion Show

Thursday, April 24, 2008
Natchez Golf Classic – Beau Pre Golf Club

Friday, May 16, 2008
Graduation - Natchez Campus

Saturday, May 17, 2008
Graduation – Wesson Campus
Graduation – Simpson County Center

Monday, May 26, 2008
Memorial Day Holiday

Thursday, June 19, 2008
Wesson Golf Classic – Wolf Hollow Golf Club

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